IN RECOGNITION OF KYLE HILL CALLING FOR STABILITY AND THE FOR FIVE YEARS OF OUT- CESSATION OF VIOLENCE AND STANDING SERVICE CONDEMNING ISIS-AFFILIATED

HON. SUZAN K. DelBENE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2022

Ms. DELBENE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank Kyle Hill for nearly five years of invaluable service to my office and my constituents in Washington's 1st Congressional District

Kyle joined my office as a Legislative Assistant in October 2017 and soon after became my Legislative Director. Prior to coming to my office, Kyle worked for the Hon. Steve Israel of New York for four years as well.

In each of these roles, Kyle exceeded the mark and met the challenges that come with running a legislative team with his wealth of knowledge, quick wit, and joyful personality. Over his tenure, he played an instrumental role in overseeing the smooth management of a fast-paced office and shaping internal processes—all while building lasting relationships with my team and those who had the pleasure of getting to know him. We all also deeply admire and are inspired by his commitment to reducing his carbon footprint by biking to work every day, regardless of the weather. Kyle has been an amazing leader, a terrific mentor, and a wonderful friend, and we will all sorely miss him.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Kyle Hill and wishing him the best in all of his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KAREN BASS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2022

Ms. BASS. Madam Speaker, earlier this afternoon, as a co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth, I was hosting more than 35 young people from all over the country at the National Shadow Day luncheon and I was absent from the first series of votes of the day in the House and missed Roll Call votes 279 and 280. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on both Roll Call No. 279, the motion to move the previous question on H. Res. 1191; and Roll Call No. 280, H. Res. 1191, the Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 7666-Restoring Hope for Mental Health and Well-Being Act of 2022, H.R. 5585—Advanced Research Projects Agency— Health Act. and H.R. 4176-LGBTQI+ Data Inclusion Act.

CALLING FOR STABILITY AND THE CESSATION OF VIOLENCE AND CONDEMNING ISIS-AFFILIATED TERRORIST ACTIVITY IN NORTHERN MOZAMBIQUE, INCLUDING THE CABO DELGADO PROVINCE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 21, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution calling for the stability and the cessation of violence and condemning ISIS-affiliated terrorist activity in northern Mozambique.

For months, insurgents linked to the Islamic State have attacked innocent Mozambican citizens and soldiers in the region of Cabo Delgado.

The region is home to one of the world's richest natural gas reservoirs, making it the target of considerable attention for Islamic revolutionaries.

Since the early 2010s, a mixture of economic inequality, unemployment, and a religious movement have bred a strong, violent extremist organization called Ansar al-Sunna.

That movement is now characterized by cells of the Islamic State working to terrorize the Mozambican people, funded by illegal drug and ivory trading.

The violence has displaced nearly one million people and killed thousands of others.

The insurgents decimate villages, especially targeting Christian districts, while murdering civilians with terrifying callousness.

This resolution calls on the government of Mozambique, specifically President Filipe Nyusi, to finally take action to counter the extremism.

Under the status quo, people are killed for practicing their religion, and extremists have overrun all forms of policing in the Northern province.

A right to liberty and justice is not something designed only for Americans or those in the West. Every human being deserves an equitable chance to pursue a fulfilling, secure life.

That opportunity is being stripped away by deadly revolutionaries in Mozambique. It is time for this Congress to take a stand against an insurgency that has decimated lives since 2017.

As defenders of the defenseless, America must take a stand and pressure the Mozambican government to protect its own citizens.

CALLING ON THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF RWANDA
TO RELEASE PAUL
RUSESABAGINA ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 21, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 892: Calling on the Government of the Republic of Rwanda to Release Paul Rusesabagina on Humanitarian Grounds.

The resolution calls on the government of Rwanda to immediately release Paul Rusesabagina on humanitarian grounds, ensure that he receives access to appropriate qualified medical professionals and all medical care, and permit him to return safely to the United States.

The resolution als urges the U.S. government in all interactions with the government of Rwanda to raise e case of Paul Rusesabagina and to press for his immediate release on humanitarian grounds.

Paul Rusesabagina is a 67-year-old cancer survivor who suffers from a cardiovascular disorder, and his permanent residency is in Texas

He is also very special in the eyes of our entire nation, as he is a Presidential Medal of Freedom honoree.

He came to global prominence because he was the manager of the Hôtel des Mille Collines in Kigali, a hotel that provided safe haven to over 1,200 Hutu and Tutsi refugees during the 1994 Rwandan genocide.

In August 2020, Mr. Rusesabagina, on a flight meant to land in Burundi, was extrajudicially transferred to Kigali by the Rwandan government and put on trial.

He was immediately arrested, although the Rwandan government did not acknowledge his detention for three days during which he was reportedly subjected to torture.

Paul Rusesabagina was sentenced to 25 years in prison on September 20, 2021.

The rogue extrajudicial transfer of Mr. Rusesabagina from Texas to Rwanda, and the subsequent trial, have been widely criticized by human rights organizations for the lack of fair trial standards, including violations of attorney-client privilege.

Human Rights Watch called the trial "flawed" and "emblematic of the government's overreach and manipulation of the justice system."

The U.S. State Department said it was "concerned" about Rusesabagina's "lack of confidential, unimpeded access to his lawyers and relevant case documents and his initial lack of access to counsel."

His own daughters only get to speak to him for about five minutes once a week.

Mr. Rusesabagina has been a vocal critic of Rwandan President Paul Kagame, accusing the president of war crimes and human rights violations, and is suffering because of it.

Our Constitution was built with the belief that every person has the right to express political dissent.

An attack on free speech anywhere is an attack on our American values.

The reported lack of fair trial guarantees calls into question the fairness of the verdict and the lack of protections meant to be consistent with Rwanda's international commitment.

To allow a foreign government to abduct and hold hostage an American permanent resident without a fair trial is to turn our back on a fundamental rule of law and democracy.

I urge all my colleagues to support H. Res. 892, calling on the Government of the Republic of Rwanda to Release Paul Rusesabagina on Humanitarian Grounds.